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NOTES ON THE CAMBRIDGE TEXTS OF BEN SIRA.

THE following notes are the result of three days' study of the Hebrew fragments in the possession of Prof. Schechter. I went very carefully through the MSS. comparing them with the printed text in the *Wisdom of Ben Sira*, edited by Prof. Schechter and Dr. Taylor, and noting every point in which there was reason to differ from the reading adopted by the editors. The text is, however, so accurately reproduced that there is very little to alter in it, and the proposed changes are mostly unimportant, or concern passages in which the reading must remain a matter of individual opinion. Of course, in the short time at my disposal I may have overlooked some points, and could not hope to puzzle out many of the difficult lines in which the writing has almost entirely disappeared. Some differences, which are merely trifling or quite uncertain, are omitted from the list. With regard to MS. A, it is worth mentioning that, though the writing is distinct and usually well-preserved, some letters (ב and בָ, ג and גָ, ו and וָ, ז and זָ) are often hardly distinguishable; such alternatives are therefore usually not noted below. I have to thank Prof. Schechter very sincerely for his courtesy in giving me access to the fragments and affording me every facility for my work.

Chapter v. 4. For אָרְךָ read אָרְךָ.

vi. 7. For בְּנִיסָן read בְּנִיסָן.

vii. 16. For תְּחַשֵּׁבְךָ read תְּחַשּׁוּבְךָ.

21. After כְּנֶפֶשׁ there is a hole: a letter *may* be lost.

23. For לְהַמְּרָאָה read לְהַמְּרָאָה.

xii. 5 d. For רעה read רעה.

14 marg. For ען read ען; it should be one line higher: perhaps a variant for זוזן.

xiii. 6. For ציריך read ציריך.

26. For וشيخ read וشيخ.

xiv. 9. For מעתן read מעתן.

13. For תמיות read תמיות.

16¹. For לפניהם (above the line) read לפניהם; the correction is not quite distinct, and so is repeated in the margin.

18 c marg. For מהחותן read מהחותן.

27. For ובעונותיה read ובעונותיה.

xv. 3. For והאכלהחו read והאכלהחו.

14. For ט (over מבראשית) read אָדָם i.e. is to be read מבראשית ט אָדָם eighth and ninth word in the line.

xvi. 23. Read לְבִיכְנוּ (?) אלה ונבר פ[ו]תָה; the printed above is really the tail of the פ in זרך in the line above.

24. what is left of the first two letters suggests שבל.

xxx. 15 marg. For עשר read עשר.

19 marg. very doubtful: the remains of letters look like י.ש.ל.ל.ש.ל.ל.

19 marg. Of only a ר (?) is visible.

19 marg. For מהונינו read perhaps מהונינו.

23 a. For פות read פות = ἀπάτα of several Greek MSS. Cf. Syriac).

xxxi. 1 marg. is crossed through.

10 b. For תפארת read תפארת (cf. margin).

10 d. For רעה read רעה.

xxxii. 1 marg. For ובענין read ובענין.

5¹ marg. For נהפקן read נהפקן (תהה?).

11¹. For שלונן (?) read שלונן (the ש is very doubtful).

12. The first letter seems to be ב.

17. For תוחה read תוחה.

22² marg. For מצויה (?) read מצויה.

xxxv. 10. For לאל read לאל.

19 d. For **ושמחם** **ושמחתם** read.

20¹. For **ב...ה...פ...נ...מ...פ** read **ב...ה...פ...נ...מ...פ**.

xxxvi. 4. For **לעניהם** read **לעניהם**.

6. For **הادرר** **הادرיר**.

17 d. For **אל[ל]ם[ל]הנו[ל]ע[ל]** read **אל[ל]ם[ל]הנו[ל]ע[ל]** (on account of the space).

18 marg. Before **תסוגר** there seems to be a **ה**.

18 marg. very doubtful; the remains of letters look like **ר...ר**.

18 marg. looks like **ממאל** (?).

xxxviii. 5 marg. For **מעין** read **מעין**.

10 marg. For **נסה** read **נסר** (?).

11. For **ניהם[ו]** read **ניהם[ו]**.

12. After **מקום** some letters very indistinct: perhaps **חריא**.

23. For **מוחשבת** read **מוחשבת**.

27. The remains of letters admit of the reading **אף עשה חרש ועצב** (?) **אשר ל[י]לה[נ]ם[נ]ה[ג]**.

1. 8 a. The first two words are written (the second may be **ו**).

9 b c. Read **ככלי וחב תבנית** (?) **א. יל**; the missing letter looks more like **ט** than anything else.

16 d. For **להזכיר** read **להזכיר**.

21. very doubtful: the remains of letters are like **ל**; perhaps no letter after **ל**.

24. For **פינחים** read **פינחים**.

li. 4 a. After **סביב** read **שלחבת** (tops of letters only remaining).

20 a¹. For **רדה** **אטדרה** **אתה** read **רדה** **אטדרה** **אתה** (tops of only remaining).

20 a². For **אהדר** read **אהדר**.

20 a². For **בתוכה** read **perhaps** **בתוכה**.

20 b, c, d. For **כ** read **...ג**.